

**REMARKS**

**INTRODUCTION:**

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 2 have been amended, and claims 3-10 have been added. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry of the foregoing amendments and new claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is requested.

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:**

In the Office Action at pages 2-3, the Examiner rejects claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102 in view of Sims et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,957,360). This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

By way of review, claim 1 recites, among other features, "reading the start position information from the predetermined area of the recording medium, with the predetermined area having the start position information for each zone, the start position information storing a start logical sector number for each of the zones."

In contrast, Sims et al. teaches media 100 having zones 1, 2, and 3. Within the zones 1, 2, 3, data is stored using logical addressees corresponding to physical addresses on the media 100. In order to determine a start of each zone, Sims et al teaches that the logical addresses are calculated due to the need to perform defect management with respect to defective sectors. (Col. 2, line 57-3, line 4 and col. 8, lines 41-54; FIG. 1). However, since Sims et al relies upon such calculations using look up tables related to the defects of each zone, Sims et al does not suggest that the logical address for the beginning of the zone is recorded for each of the zones. As such, it is respectfully submitted that Sims et al does not suggest the invention of claim 1.

Similarly, Sims et al does not suggest that such information is recorded in a disc definition structure. As such, it is respectfully submitted that Sims et al does not disclose or suggest "reading the start position information from the predetermined area of the recording medium, with the predetermined area having the start position information for each zone, the start position information storing a start logical sector number for each of the zones, and with the predetermined area being in a disc definition structure area of a defect management area of the recording medium" as recited in claim 2.

**PATENTABILITY OF NEW CLAIMS:**

Claims 3-10 are deemed patentable due at least to their depending from corresponding

claims 1 and 2.

**CONCLUSION:**

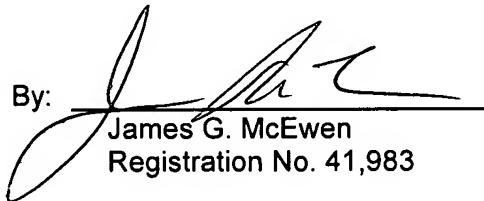
In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any additional fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

STEIN, MCEWEN & BUI LLP

By:   
James G. McEwen  
Registration No. 41,983

1400 Eye Street, NW  
Suite 300  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone: (202) 216-9505  
Facsimile: (202) 216-9510

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